

Appl. No. 10/024,478
Amndt. dated April 2, 2004
Reply to Final Office Action of November 18, 2003

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An insulating cover for an access opening associated with attic trap doors and/or pull down attic ladders and wherein the access opening is defined by a peripheral frame, the insulating cover comprising, a closure member formed of a free standing insulating material and including a body portion and opposing side and end walls, said closure member including a depending central body portion of a size to complementary fit within the frame defining the access opening and having a lower surface, and said depending central body portion having an outer peripheral surface which frictionally fits within and snugly engages the frame defining the access opening to thereby create a continuous first seal about the access opening when positioned in covering relationship with respect to the access opening; and at least one handle secured to said lower surface depending central body portion of said closure member to facilitate maneuvering of said body portion.

2. (currently amended) An insulating cover for an access

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opening associated with attic trap doors and/or pull down attic ladders and wherein the access opening is defined by a peripheral frame, the insulating cover comprising, a closure member formed of a free standing insulating material and including a body portion and opposing side and end walls, said closure member including a depending central body portion of a size to complementary fit within the frame defining the access opening and having a lower surface, and said depending central body portion having an outer peripheral surface which frictionally and snugly engages the frame defining the access opening to thereby create a continuous first seal about the access opening when positioned in covering relationship with respect to the access opening, and said closure member includes laterally extending outer flange portions for seating against an upper edge defined by the frame defining the access opening to thereby form a second seal with the frame.

3. (previously presented) The insulating cover of claim 2 wherein said closure member is coated with a fire retardant material.

4. (previously presented) The insulating cover of claim 2 including at least one handle secured to said depending central

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body portion of said closure member to facilitate maneuvering.

5. (original) The insulating cover of claim 1 in which said insulating material of said closure member is an expanded polymeric material.

6. (cancelled)

7. (Currently amended) The insulating cover of claim 2 in which said closure member includes at least first and second components each having opposing edges which are configured to cooperatively engage one another to create a ~~tortuous~~ seal path therebetween, and means for adhesively securing said opposing edges in inter-fitted relationship.

8-12 (cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) The insulating cover of claim 1 in which said closure member includes at least first and second components each having opposing edges which are configured to cooperatively engage one another to create a ~~tortuous~~ seal path therebetween, and means for adhesively securing said opposing edges in inter-fitted relationship.

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14. (currently amended) An insulating cover for an access opening associated with attic trap doors and/or pull down attic ladders which includes, a continuous frame having spaced side walls and spaced end walls and which frame is formed of a free standing insulating material, said frame defining an opening therethrough for alignment with the access opening and said frame being of a size to generally surround the access opening, a closure member formed of a free standing insulating material and having side and end walls, said closure member including a depending central portion of a size to fit within said opening defined by said frame and frictionally and snugly engage said side walls and end walls of said frame to create a first continuous seal within said frame when positioned against said frame in covering relationship with respect to said opening defined by said frame and said closure member including flange portions which extend laterally outwardly relative to said depending central portion for seating against upper surfaces of said side and end walls of said frame to thereby form a second seal with said frame.

15. (cancelled)

16. (previously presented) The insulating cover of claim

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14 in which said side and end walls of said closure member are tapered from an upper surface of said closure member toward a lower surface thereof, and said side and end walls of said frame are tapered inwardly from an upper surface toward a lower surface of said side and end walls thereof such that said tapered side and end walls of said closure member cooperatively engage said tapered side and end walls of said frame.

17. (Previously presented) The insulating cover of claim 14 in which said frame includes a depending portion extending from each of said side and end walls, said depending portions being configured so as to extend within the access opening and to engage against a structural frame defining the access opening.

18-19 (cancelled)

20. (previously presented) The insulating cover of claim 17 wherein said frame includes an upper section which extends laterally outwardly about said depending portion thereof so as to be seated above the frame defining the access opening.

21. (currently amended) The insulating cover of claims [[14]] 20 including at last one handle mounted to extend from a

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lower surface of said depending central portion of said closure member so as to be accessible within the access opening when the insulating cover is in place.

22. (previously presented) The insulating cover of claim 14 including at least one handle extending from a lower surface of said closure member so as to be accessible within the access opening when the insulating cover is in place.

23. (cancelled)

24. (Currently amended) The insulating cover of claim 14 in which said closure member includes at least first and second components each having opposing edges which are configured to cooperatively engage one another to create a tortuous seal path therebetween, and means for adhesively securing said opposing edges in inter-fitted relationship so as to form a unified closure member.

25. (previously presented) The insulating cover of claim 14 including said closure member and said frame being coated with a fire retardant material.

26. (cancelled)

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27. (Previously presented) The insulating cover of claim 14 in which said insulating material of said closure member and said frame is an expanded polymeric material.